tetrahydrofolic acid, 10-formyl-(6R)-tetrahydrofolic acid, 5,10-methylene-(6R)-tetrahydrofolic acid, 5,10-methenyl-(6R)-tetrahydrofolic acid, 5-formimino-(6S)-tetrahydrofolic acid, and polyglutamyl derivatives thereof; and

C8 a nutritional substance for human consumption being an essential nutrient preparation, the essential nutrient preparation comprising a vitamin other than ascorbic acid, wherein the vitamin is present in an amount equal to or greater than 25% of the daily requirement for the vitamin per customarily consumed quantity of said essential nutrient preparation.

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43 42
~~106~~. (Amended) A method according to claim ~~103~~[, 104, or 105], wherein said administering is carried out by enteral administration.

44 42
~~107~~. (Amended) A method according to claim ~~103~~ [or

C9 105], wherein, when the nutritional substance is an essential nutrient preparation and when said composition comprises an amount of 5-formyl-(6S)-tetrahydrofolic acid, said composition further comprises no 5-formyl-(6R)-tetrahydrofolic acid, or, if present, said composition further comprises 5-formyl-(6R)-tetrahydrofolic acid in an amount less than the amount of 5-formyl-(6S)-tetrahydrofolic acid present in said composition.

REMARKS

Claims 45-58, 62-80, and 83-111 are pending in the subject application. Hereinabove, claims 46-49, 55-56, 62, 68-69, 74-75, 86, 104-105, and 108-111 have been canceled, and claims 51-53, 58, 63-66, 70-72, 76-80, 97-98, and 106-107 have been amended. Accordingly, the claims now under consideration are claims 45, 50-54, 57-58, 63-67, 70-73, 76-80, 83-85, 87-103, and 106-107, as amended. In view of the above amendments

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and the following remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of rejections set forth in the outstanding office action.

The indication in the outstanding office action that claims 45, 50-54, 57-58, 67, 73, 83-85, and 96-103 are allowable is respectfully acknowledged.

As indicated above, claims 51-53, 58, and 97-98 have been allowed in the outstanding office action. However, these claims, as allowed, depend from a rejected base claim. Applicants have hereinabove amended claims 51-53, 58, and 98-99 so that, as amended, they do not depend from a rejected base claim. Accordingly, these amendments should not be construed as having been made to overcome a prior art rejection.

The rejection of claims 46-49, 55-56, 62-66, 68-72, 74-79, 86-95, and 104-111 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness over U.S. Patent No. 5,006,655 to Müller et al. ("Müller") or U.S. Patent No. 5,624,686 to Shimoda et al. ("Shimoda") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,833,739 to Pedersen et al. ("Pedersen"), U.S. Patent No. 4,753,926 to Lucas et al. ("Lucas"), and Müller is respectfully traversed.

Claims 46-49, 55-56, 62, 68-69, 74-75, 86, 104-105, and 108-111 have hereinabove been canceled.

Claims 63-66 have been amended to depend only from claim 54 or 57. The outstanding office action indicates that claims 54 and 57 are allowable. Accordingly, claims 63-66 should also be allowed.

Claims 70-72 have been amended to depend only from claim 67. The outstanding office action indicates that claim 67 is allowable. Accordingly, claims 70-72 should also be allowed.

Claims 76-79 have been amended to depend only from claim 73. The outstanding office action indicates that claim

73 is allowable. Accordingly, claims 76-79 should also be allowed.

As noted above, claim 65 has been amended to depend only from allowed base claims, and, therefore, claim 65 (as amended) should be allowable. Claims 87-89 depend from claim 65, and therefore, these claims should also be allowable.

As noted above, claim 71 has been amended to depend only from allowed base claims, and, therefore, claim 71 (as amended) should be allowable. Claims 90-92 depend from claim 71, and therefore, these claims should also be allowable.

As noted above, claim 79 has been amended to depend only from allowed base claims, and, therefore, claim 79 (as amended) should be allowable. Claims 93-95 depend from claim 79, and therefore, these claims should also be allowable.

Claims 106-107 have been amended to depend only from claim 103. The outstanding office action indicates that claim 103 is allowable. Accordingly, claims 106-107 should also be allowed.

The outstanding office action is silent on the allowability of claim 80. Claim 80 should be allowed because (as amended) this claim depends only from claim 73, which the outstanding office action indicates is allowable.

For all of the above reasons, the rejection of claims 46-49, 55-56, 62-66, 68-72, 74-79, 86-95, and 104-111 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for obviousness over Müller or Shimoda in view of Pedersen, Lucas, and Müller should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The outstanding office action asserts that the title is not descriptive. Applicants have hereinabove amended the title to more clearly indicate the invention to which the claims are directed and to indicate the method.

It is applicants' understanding, per applicants' undersigned attorney's telephone conversation with Examiner H. Pratt, that the PTO considered the references cited in the

PTO-1449 form which accompanied applicants' January 13, 1999, Information Disclosure Statement. An initialed copy of the this PTO-1449 form was not included with the outstanding office action, and applicants respectfully request that such an initialed copy be mailed to applicants with the PTO's next communication.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this case is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain which can usefully be discussed by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 28, 1999

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date below.

5-28-99	Peter Rogalskyj
Date	Peter Rogalskyj